Reviewing the functioning of AICTE and UGC

4055. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2827, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st April, 2008 and state:

(a) whether the standard of teaching in universities/colleges is going down day by day; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent lowering of teaching standards in these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of any such deterioration of standards of teaching in universities and colleges.

(b) Does not arise.

Serving biscuits in Mid-day Meal

4056. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the State Governments have opposed the proposal of the Central Government to serve 'Biscuits' to school students under-the Mid-day Meal Scheme;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the views of the State Governments have been asked in selecting the items for the Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Biscuit Manufacturers' Welfare Association (BMWA) had submitted a proposal to serve biscuits under the Mid-day Meal Programme, which was opposed by several State Governments. The Central Government has rejected the proposal of BMWA since replacement of a hot, cooked mid- day meal by biscuits would not be in the nutritional interests of children.

(c) and (d) The State Governments select items in accordance with the prescribed nutritional norms and local food habits and taste while preparing menus under the Mid-day Meal Scheme.

Justice delivery mechanism

†4057. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to evolve a internal mechanism to conduct a study of family worthy to be delivered justice related to different aspects of the delivery of justice;

(b) if so, the details of major components to be included in the evolution of the said mechanism;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.